



THE EARLY DANCE CONSORT

*Beguiling
Baroque*

2024

**Summer Course
in**

Early Dance

THE EARLY DANCE CONSORT

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3 - 5 January

In North Sydney

2024 Summer Course

Wednesday - Friday

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We invite you to join our 14th Summer Course in Early Dance, Beguiling Baroque, exploring the noble dance style of the late 17th & early 18th century European courts. *Why beguiling?* Baroque dance is both charming & deceptive. Its noble ease belies the control needed to dance with grace & precision, a quality evident in classical ballet, which has developed from it.

Why learn baroque dance? Dance is perhaps the most ephemeral of arts. 18th C dance notation provides a rare window into ball & stage choreographies of the baroque era. Reconstruction allows us the possibility of embodying the experience of the courtier: the posture, gesture & dance forms forgotten over intervening centuries. For musicians, actors, dancers & social historians, this is invaluable physical insight: into musical rhythms, accents & phrasing, into deportment, gesture, technique & aesthetics.

Over three days, students build technique, steps & sequences towards whole dances, helping to smooth the learning curve for newcomers while giving experienced students an opportunity to refine technique & style. In this way the course presents an opportunity to explore & develop a tangible appreciation of this distinctive dance repertoire.

Venue 181 Blues Point Road, North Sydney. Near North Sydney Train & Bus Station. [MAP](#)

Requirements No previous dance experience required. No need to bring a partner.

Course details

Morning A sessions introduce the basics of Baroque dance style: the deportment & the characteristic movements which distinguish it from other styles, exploring a range of steps & their precise relationship to the musically pervasive baroque rhythms from Bourrée & Gavotte to Minuet, Sarabande & Gigue.

Morning B sessions develop steps in context to form phrases & figures, building towards one or more dances.

Afternoon C sessions will extend to more complex steps, subtleties of hand & arm movements, to further an appreciation of the precision and delicacy of the *Belle Danse*. Plus exploration of the dance notation known as *chorégraphie*, which is key to discovering the treasures of this unique dance repertoire.

For greatest benefit, we urge students to begin on the Wednesday & choose between:

- * Full Course (9 sessions over 3 days) OR
- * Wednesday only (3 sessions) OR
- * Consecutive days A, or A + B

What to wear Light comfortable clothes, and secure shoes without rubber soles. Flat, light shoes for warm-ups (e.g. ballet flats, jiffies). Low-heeled shoes (1-4cm) for Baroque dance (e.g. Grecian sandals, or Jazz shoes for both)

To eat & drink Light refreshments will be provided for morning tea. Bring water to drink, pack/buy lunch if staying for the day.

COVID-19 The course will run subject to NSW Health guidelines. For the safety of all, we urge you to be fully vaccinated & boosted, stay home & get a test if unwell, maintain distancing & hand hygiene where possible, & wear a mask if preferred.

Enrolment

Please complete enrolment form, & return by email/post. Preferred payment is by direct deposit (bank details on enrolment form). Otherwise cheque or exact cash in envelope. Early-bird rates available until December 18. Do get in touch by phone or email if you have any questions, or go to ~

www.earlydanceconsort.com.au

DAILY SCHEDULE 3 - 5 January, 2024

9.00 am	Register/Warm-up
9.15am-11.00am	A sessions
11.00am-11.15am	Morning Tea
11.15am-1.00pm	B sessions
1.00pm-2.00pm	LUNCH (BYO)
2.00pm-3.45pm	C sessions

COURSE FEES	Early-bird*	Full Price
Full Course (3 days, 9 sessions)	\$220.00	\$250.00
One Day* A + B + C *Wednesday only (3 sessions)	\$95.00	\$100.00
Mornings A sessions (3 sessions over 3 days)	\$90.00	\$95.00
Mornings A + B daily (6 sessions over 3 days)	\$170.00	\$185.00
Single session A, or A+B each (Wednesday only)	\$35.00	\$40.00
* Early-bird rates up to 18 December 2023		